

TITLE II ENVIRONMENTAL COMPLIANCE FACESHEET

Title of MYAP: Food Security for Goma

FFP Grant Number: ~~N/A~~ FFP-A-00-08-00073

Country/Region: Democratic Republic of the Congo, Central Africa

Implementing Partner: Mercy Corps

Funding Begin: 06/2008

Funding End: 05/2011

LOA Amount:
\$11,499,900

Sub-Activity Amount: N/A

Resource Levels:

Commodity: 4,840 MT
(Distribution)

8,100 MT (Monetization)

Monetization

202(e): \$ 1,084,218

ITSH: \$ 1,181,369

Request: \$ 4,384,500

IEE Prepared by: Jim Jarvie, Natural Resource
Management Director

Date: April 2008

IEE Amendment (Y/N): If "Yes," Date of Original IEE: N/A
No

ENVIRONMENTAL ACTION RECOMMENDED: (Place X where applicable)

X Request for Categorical Exclusion(s): activities have no adverse effect (i.e., training, technical assistance; not to include any infrastructure rehabilitation.)

X Negative Determination: no significant adverse effects expected for activities which are well defined over life of the award.

☐ **without conditions** (no special mitigation measures needed)

X with conditions (mitigation measures specified)

☐ **Positive Determination:** potential for significant adverse effect of one or more activities. Appropriate environmental review needed/conducted.

☐ **Deferral:** elements not well defined; activities will not be implemented until amended IEE is approved. Briefly describe here:

Environmental Media and/or Human Health Potentially Impacted
(check all that apply):

Air ☐; Water **X**; Land **X**; Biodiversity (specify) ☐; Human Health **X**; Social ☐; None ☐

Summary of Findings:

This IEE covers Mercy Corps proposed Multi-Year (three-year) Assistance Program in the Democratic Republic of the Congo's (DRC) North Kivu Province. This program is based on the principles of developmental relief and provides community assistance while addressing the root causes of vulnerability. Mercy Corps' Food Security for Goma (FSG) seeks approval for a package of activities to be carried out under this program to strengthen the foundation for food security solutions in the area and, reducing waterborne diseases by 25 percent among children under five through improved water and sanitation access and hygiene education.

1. Environmental determinations

Six discrete activities will be implemented under the Title II program with the overall objectif to reduce waterborne diseases by 25% among children under five through improved water and sanitation access and hygiene education:

1. Form/strengthen water committees.
2. Increase access to treated municipal water
3. Provide technology/training for rainwater harvesting.
4. Construct latrines for schools, health centers, markets, and households
5. Promote hygiene knowledge through public awareness campaigns, school-based outreach, and training of community health workers.
6. Promote safe water.

1.1. A Categorical Exclusion is recommended, pursuant to 22 CFR 216.2(c)(2)(i),(ii)(iii),(v), (viii), (x),(xi) and(xii) for activities involving technical assistance, education, capacity building, food distribution, resource provision, studies, meetings, and monitoring and evaluation for all the activities which are not likely to have potential adverse impacts on the environment. These activities include

- Form/strengthen water committees
- Provide technology and training for rainwater harvesting
- Promote hygiene knowledge through public awareness campaigns, school-based outreach, and training of community health workers
- and Promote safe water.

1.2 Negative Determination with Conditions is recommended for the following activities pursuant to 22 CFR 216.3 (a) (3) (iii)

- Increase access to treated municipal water
- Construct latrines for schools, health centers, markets, and households

Conditions attached:

Both water supply and sanitation activities should be conducted in a manner consistent with the good design and implementation practices described in *EGSSAA Chapter 16: Water Supply and Sanitation*. The SO Team and implementing partners should closely examine this chapter, as it provides a thorough discussion of program design and implementation issues that can help avoid numerous preventable problems. Another useful reference to consult for good water and sanitation design and implementation principles is the; "Guidelines for the Development of

Small Scale Rural Water Supply and Sanitation Projects in Ethiopia," by Catholic Relief Services and USAID, July 31, 2003.

Water quality testing is essential for determining that the water from a constructed water source is safe to drink and to determine a baseline so that any future degradation can be detected. Among the water quality tests which must be performed are tests for the presence of arsenic. Any USAID-supported activity engaged in the provision of potable water must adhere to Guidance Cable State 98 108651, which requires arsenic testing. That 1998 cable also anticipates "practical guidelines on sampling and testing for arsenic" that were then under development. The EGAT Bureau completed these guidelines, and the Africa Bureau has packaged them in a document titled, "Guidelines for Determining the Arsenic Content of Ground Water in USAID-Sponsored Well Programs in Sub-Saharan Africa." The SO team must assure that the standards and testing procedures described in this guideline document are followed for potable water supply activities under this program.

Detailed mitigation measures are recommended for the activities that are categorized as negative determinations with conditions. Detail of the mitigation measures is included in Annex 3. Mercy Corps/DRC will employ sufficient personnel for monitoring and evaluating the progress of the program which will include environmental components along with general program advancement. Monitoring and evaluating the environmental impact of all activities in the North Kivu province will be a priority of the M&E staff, as well as the Provincial Program Officers and Provincial Program Manager. The environmental screening/report form (see annex 5) will be completed after every field site visit to document compliance with all environmental determinations.

USAID APPROVAL OF ENVIRONMENTAL ACTION(S) RECOMMENDED:

Clearance:

Mission Director: Stephen HAYKIN Date: 8/27/08

Concurrence

DCHA Bureau Environmental Officer: ERIKA Clesceri Date: 12/2/08

Approved: ☒

Disapproved: ☐

Optional Clearances:

Mission Environmental Officer (a.i): Nicodème TCHAMOU Date: 8/27/08

Agreement Officer: 11-25-08 3
Date